

**DUBLIN BOROUGH
EMERGENCY ALARM PERMIT/REGISTRATION**

Date: _____ Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone #: _____ Work Phone #: _____

Description of Alarm & Method of Operation: _____

Agency Receiving Alarm Signal: _____

Name/Address/Phone # of Person(s) Other Than Owner Who Is/Are Authorized to Respond and Gain Access to Property: _____

Name/Address/Phone # of Company/Person Responsible for Maintenance & Repair of Alarm System: _____

"I certify that I have received a copy of Dublin Borough Ordinance #169, Emergency Alarms."

Signature of Property Owner

FOR BOROUGH USE ONLY

Approved: _____ Date: _____

Borough Manager Signature

Permit #: _____ Permit Fee Paid: _____

Comments: _____

cc: Alarm file/Applicant/Police Chief/Fire Co/D 9.2 (ALARM)

BOROUGH OF DUBLIN
BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

ORDINANCE NO. 169

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF DUBLIN, BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, REQUIRING REGISTRATION OF EXISTING EMERGENCY ALARMS, AND REQUIRING PERMITS FOR NEW INSTALLATIONS OF EMERGENCY ALARMS, PROMULGATING REGULATIONS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, AND PROVIDING FOR THE COLLECTION OF COSTS RELATIVE TO FALSE ALARMS AND FINES FOR VIOLATIONS.

WHEREAS, the Borough Council is of the opinion that proper means should be taken for regulating and controlling all matters concerning emergency alarm devices.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ENACTED and ORDAINED by the Borough Council of Dublin Borough as follows:

Section 1. This Ordinance shall be known as the "Emergency Alarm Ordinance."

Section 2. The purpose of this Ordinance is to promote the health, safety and general welfare of the inhabitants of the Borough of Dublin.

Section 3. Certain words and phrases used in this Ordinance shall have the meaning ascribed as follows:

Alarm Equipment Vendor. Any person, firm or corporation who sells or leases or installs or maintains alarm equipment.

Automatic Protection Device. An electrically-operated instrument composed of sensory apparatus and related hardware which automatically transmits a pre-recorded voice alarm over

regular telephone line by direct or indirect communication to the police or fire department of Dublin Borough upon receipt of a stimulus from a sensory apparatus that has detected a physical force or condition inherently characteristic of intrusion or fire.

False Alarm. Any signal activated by an automatic protection device, any audible alarm or other kind of direct or indirect signal or message given to the Dublin Borough Police or Fire Department which is not the result of unauthorized entry, fire or similar emergency.

Audible Alarm. Any device, bell, horn or siren which is attached to the interior or exterior of a building and emits a warning signal audible outside the building and designed to attract attention when activated by a criminal act or other emergency requiring the police or fire department to respond.

Central Station Protective System. A protective system, or group of such systems, operated privately for customers by a person, firm or corporation which maintains supervisors and accepts recorded messages from automatic protection devices at a central station having trained operators and guards in attendance at all times that have the duty to take appropriate action upon receipt of a signal or message, including the relaying of messages by designated or primary trunkline to the Bucks County Radio Room.

Answering Service. A service whereby trained employees, in attendance at all times, receive pre-recorded voice messages

from automatic protection devices reporting an emergency at a stated location and who have the duty to relay immediately by live voice only such emergency message over a designated or direct trunkline to the Bucks County Radio Room.

Section 4. Required Equipment, Service, Maintenance and Method of Reporting Alarms.

a. Timing Mechanism Required on Audible Alarms. After enactment, owners or lessees must equip audible alarms with a timing mechanism that will disengage the audible alarm after a maximum period of fifteen (15) minutes. Audible alarms without such a timing mechanism shall be unlawful in the Borough and must be disconnected by the owner or lessee within sixty (60) days from the effective date of this Ordinance.

b. Connection to Bucks County Radio Room of Reporting Alarms. Persons who have reporting alarm devices shall arrange that such devices report alarms to the Bucks County Radio Room by a means whereby there is a human being intermediary reporting, and not a machine.

c. Each alarm equipment vendor shall make service available directly or through an agent on a twenty-four-hour-per-day basis, seven (7) days a week, to repair such device or to correct any malfunction that may occur.

d. At the time of installation, an alarm equipment vendor shall furnish to any buyer or lessee using a repair service

written information as to how service may be obtained at any time, including the telephone number of the person responsible for service. The buyer or lessee and the person supplying the service shall be responsible for having the device disconnected or repaired as quickly as possible after notice that the automatic protection device is not functioning properly.

Section 5. Prohibited Equipment Remedies.

a. Automatic protection devices are prohibited. All reporting alarms shall be of the answering service or central station protective system type. It is a violation of this Ordinance to have a machine use the Police or Fire Department telephone line.

b. When messages evidencing failure to comply with the operational requirements set forth above are received by the Police or Fire Department, and the Borough Manager concludes that the automatic protection device sending such messages should be disconnected in order to relieve the particular Department of the burden of responding to false alarms, the Borough Manager is authorized to demand that the owner or lessee of the device, or his representative, disconnect the device until it is made to comply with the operational requirements.

c. If disconnection of any defective device is not accomplished promptly, and the Borough Manager determines that the malfunctioning device is repeatedly sending false alarms, the

Borough Manager may then take any steps necessary to disconnect the defective automatic protection device.

Section 6. Registration and Permits Required.

a. Within thirty (30) days after the effective date of this Ordinance, all owners and/or lessees of property in Dublin Borough, or their alarm equipment vendor, which have installed therein any alarm reporting device, audible alarm or other kind of alarm designed to reach, by the Bucks County Radio Room, the Dublin Borough Police or Fire Department, shall register such device with the Borough of Dublin on a form obtained from the Borough.

b. After the effective date of this Ordinance, it shall be unlawful to install any alarm reporting device, audible alarm or other kind of alarm designed to reach the Dublin Borough Police or Fire Department without a human intermediary.

Section 7. All applicants for a permit shall provide the following information, on a form approved by the Borough:

a. The telephone number(s) of the owner or lessee at home and at his place of employment or business.

b. The address where the device is to be installed and the telephone number of that address.

c. The name, address and telephone number of any person other than the owner or lessee who is authorized to respond to an

emergency and gain access to the address where the device is installed.

d. The name and telephone number of any person, firm or corporation who is responsible for maintenance and repair of the automatic protection device or audible alarm.

Section 8. All information furnished pursuant to this requirement shall be kept confidential and shall be for the use of the Borough Manager and designated personnel of the Police and/or Fire Department only.

Section 9. All applicants for a permit shall pay a fee of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) to the Borough.

Section 10. The sensory mechanism used in connection with an alarm reporting device or audible alarm must be adjusted to suppress false indications of intrusion or fire so that the device will not be activated by impulses due to knocking on or shaking doors, the rattling or vibrating of doors or windows, vibrations to the premises caused by the passing of vehicles or any other force not related to genuine alarms.

Section 11. All components comprising such a device must be maintained by the owner or lessee in good repair.

Section 12. Each alarm equipment vendor shall furnish operating instructions for each type of automatic protection device or audible alarm, and at the time of installation, shall furnish to any buyer or lessee using a repair service written information

as to how service may be obtained at any time, including the telephone number of the alarm equipment vendor or agent responsible for service.

Section 13. Alarm equipment vendors shall furnish at or prior to the time of contracting, and at their expense, a copy of this Ordinance to owners, lessees or users of the equipment to be supplied.

Section 14.

a. For the purpose of defraying the costs to the Borough of responding to a false alarm, the owner, lessee and user of an automatic protection device or audible alarm shall pay a fee of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) to the Borough for the third and all subsequent false alarms originating from the owner or lessee's premises. This sum shall be a civil claim to reimburse the cost of response, and does not affect the penalty provisions hereafter prescribed.

b. Deliberate false alarms by any person caught doing so or the creation of three (3) or more false alarms by neglect of the system in one (1) week are serious violations of this Ordinance.

Section 15. Penalties for Serious Violations. Any person, firm or corporation who violates any provision of this Ordinance and who fails to comply with requirements of a written notice advising of such violation within five (5) working days of receipt of such notice shall, upon conviction in a summary proceeding

before any District Justice, be liable for a fine or penalty not to exceed Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) for each and every offense; or, if failure to pay is not caused by indigence or lack of sufficient assets, shall be subject to imprisonment in the Bucks County Prison for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days. Each day that such violation is continued after notice shall constitute a new and separate offense, punishable by like fine, penalty or imprisonment; and further notices to the offender shall not be necessary in order to constitute such continuance as additional offense or offenses.

Section 16. Nothing in this Ordinance is intended to, nor shall it, regulate the use of sirens or other alarms by emergency service vehicles nor devices installed on automobiles to signal illegal entry.

Section 17. The provisions of this Ordinance are severable, and if any of its sections, clauses or sentences shall be held illegal, invalid or unconstitutional, such illegality, invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect or impair any of the remaining sections, clauses or sentences of this Ordinance. It is thereby declared to be the intent of the Borough Council that this Ordinance would have been adopted if such illegal, invalid or unconstitutional sections, clauses or sentences had not been included therein.

Section 18. All Ordinances or parts thereof inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 19. This Ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after adoption.

ENACTED and ORDAINED this _____ day of _____, 1988.

DUBLIN BOROUGH COUNCIL

By: Joseph Biele
President

(SEAL)

Attest: _____
Secretary

Approved this _____ day of _____, 1988.

Herold W. Hallinan
Mayor

Section 18. All Ordinances or parts thereof inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 19. This Ordinance shall become effective thirty (3) days after adoption.

ENACTED and ORDAINED this 3rd Day of July 1988.

DUBLIN BOROUGH COUNCIL

(SEAL)

By: /s/ Joseph P. Biebl
President

Attest: /s/ Luther L. Wonsidler
Secretary

Approved this 3rd day of July 1988.

/s/ Gerald H. Hallman
Mayor

"I certify that this is a true copy of Dublin Borough Ordinance No. 169."

Mark J. Vasoli, Borough Secretary
March 9, 1990